



Creating Strategies for Flood Preparedness

Louisiana Watershed Initiative: Local and Regional Projects and Programs

This program is one of 12 featured in our Creating Strategies for Flood Preparedness profile series. The flood assistance/preparedness programs highlighted in this series represent state and local efforts across the country to make homes and communities flood resilient and to aid in recovery efforts after flooding events. When possible, each program's background information, funding, impact, eligibility, services, and challenges/lessons learned are summarized in the series. These examples can be used as models for other states and local agencies as they consider local possibilities to develop, fund, and implement their own programs.



Program Background. The **Louisiana Watershed Initiative** provides funding and support for the implementation of flood risk reduction programs and projects at local and regional agencies. The programs and projects must demonstrate outcomes that improve community flood resilience.



Funding. This initiative is primarily funded by Community Development Block Grant Mitigation money from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); \$570 million will be distributed in three rounds to eligible programs and projects.



Impact. In round one, 16 state projects and 13 regional projects shared \$100 million in project funding; awards for each project ranged from \$500,000 to \$10 million. State projects amounted to \$61.6 million of the \$100 million in total funding, while regional projects received approximately \$40 million. Round two of the initiative is expected to launch in 2022.



Program Eligibility. The types of projects eligible for funding included buyout or elevation projects for flood-prone residential areas; restoration, enhancement, or preservation of floodplain and wetlands; housing developments using resilient construction practices; and projects that improve flood resilience or provide regional stormwater detection. For the full list of eligible projects, visit the Louisiana Watershed Initiative's **Local and Regional Projects and Programs** webpage.



Program Services. The Louisiana Watershed Initiative offers funding and support to local and regional agencies with a focus on implementation-ready and low-risk programs and projects that combat flood risks using a watershed-based approach. The goals of the initiative in rounds two and three are to award flood risk reduction project based upon watershed models and nature-based solutions tools, enhance project development capacity and geographic spread, ensure federal grant requirements are met, and elevate nature-based solutions.

For additional information, visit the Louisiana Watershed Initiative's [Local and Regional Projects and Programs](#) webpage.

For additional examples and resources related to flood preparedness, visit...

<http://bit.ly/NCHHpubsCSFP>



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